The OSCILLATOR

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Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

"MY TWO CENTS"
Pat Roberson

The end of summer is here and I'm glad we finally got some summer like weather. I don't know about you but we've been doing some planning for next year. Reservations for Sea-Pac and Field Day have been made. It sure would be nice if OTVARC members rented all of the cabins at L.L. Stub Stewart State Park for Field Day.

Plans are being made by the Board of Directors for the Holiday Dinner Meeting. No details yet, but things are in the works.

I am happy to report that Warren, W7JDT is well on the way to recovery and am hoping he will be back with us for the board meeting. Jenny is recovering from her Chemo treatments. Her blood counts have come back strong with no sign of a return of the Leukemia. Now comes the outpatient Chemo treatments. They will get repeated several times over the next few months.

Today I heard a ham call on 146.52 simplex for anyone monitoring on Hwy 26 (Sunset). I think he was looking for information on an accident. Nobody came back to him which made me wonder why more hams don't monitor the "national simplex frequency" when traveling on our highways. Seems like a travel channel is just what we need for traffic info and short range communications while traveling. Just my two cents.

73, Pat Roberson, KA7PAT, Pres.

DX-PEDITIONS
Part 1: The Basics

Joe Kelly N7BF has prepared a series of articles on DX-peditions. The series will run monthly.

A DX-pedition is a ham operator's expedition to a remote location. Some take place because there are very few radio amateurs active from that place. It may be an island, a country, or even a particular spot on a geographical grid.

The activity was pioneered by Robert W. Denniston. His 1948 DX-pedition was to the Bahamas. DX-peditions are planned to help operators earn an amateur radio award. There are awards sponsored by various organizations based on contacts with many different countries including the DX Century Club (DXCC) that involves contacting and confirming 100 distinct geographical entities. An "entity" is any location that is either politically or physically remote from other jurisdictions/locations. For example, even though Alaska and Hawaii are politically part of the United States, they are separate DX entities.

Many DX-peditions take place from locations with adequate access to power and supplies, often where the country has a small resident amateur population or where licensing is not very difficult. Many Caribbean and Pacific island .

See DX-peditions, Page 4

CLUB MONTHLY MEETING

The September Club Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20th at *Community Building, Sunset Presbyterian Church*, 14986 NW Cornell Rd, just off US 26 (Exit 65) in Beaverton. The Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

"The Excitement of Digital QSOs" will be presented by Steve AD7OG.

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club.* Check out the map at: tinyurl.com/otvarc-site

Guests are always welcome.

Questions? otvarc@gmail.com

TRAVELERS'

It's time to think about the Annual November Campout & Potluck at Wandering Spirit RV Park in Grand Ronde. Friday Prime Rib Dinner at the Casino (Free Bus) and Saturday Turkey Potluck, members bring everything except the bird and gravy. Call the Park for reservations: 503.879.5700. Non-Travelers welcome for the Potluck at 5:30 pm Saturday, November 19th. This is Geno Buell KA7KBH's last wagon-master outing!

www.vhfdx.info

Thanks to the collaboration of FMLIST and DX-Sherlock current FM Broadcast activity has been added to DX-Sherlock. By this co-operation, suggested by Finnish DXers, FM radio station log details are transferred as spots to DX-Sherlock. DX-Sherlock uses the data for MUF calculation and map display. The log details are transmitted automatically and in real time, as soon as a log is entered in the myFM logbook. Users of DX-Sherlock will benefit from the FM radio logs, which close the big gap between 50 and 144 MHz. This is just one more reason to use DX-Sherlock. Check it out.

Market Reef DX-pedition

Looks like Market Reef will be busy for the next few weeks. Thanks to the co-operation of the Finnish Lighthouse Society and their transportation partner, Captain Mats Sjostrom of Aland Islands, Radio Arcala team (OH8X) and their associates have planned a 3-week operation from Market Reef (OJ0X) which began this week.

Operations will be done by an international team of thirteen operators that will operate on a one-week shift basis.

CW Targets

1813 or 1826.5, 3523, 7023, 10123, 14003 or 14033, 18083 or 18083, 21003 or 21033, 24893 or 24903, 28003 or 28033 kHz

SSB Targets

1843, 3770, 7070, 14170, 18130, 21280, 24960 and 28490 kHz

RTTY Targets

10140 and 18108 kHz

QSL OJ0X via OH2BH. For more details, see:
www.qrz.com/db/OJ0X#1st

Log search will be available at:
www.clublog.org/charts/?c=OJ0X
it may not be updated daily due to poor Internet access from Market Reef.

Technician Class License Series

Technician Ham Class Series

October 15, 22, & 29, 2011
1:15 to 4:15 pm

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Station #67
Farmington Road
Beaverton

There is no fee for this class.

Gordon West Technician Class License Manual
July 1 2011- June 30, 2012 Edition
Videotape and going over questions together

Please leave a message at this email address.

janetnbell@frontier.com or WB7FJC@arrl.net

Janet Bell WB7FJC

Tektronix Museum

A group of ex-Tektronix employees have embarked on a volunteer project to build a permanent museum in Portland, OR to display vintage Tektronix products among other items and services. The museum focuses on the period from Tektronix start through the 1980's and is a private venture (not associated with Danaher, the present owner of Tektronix).

I am looking for contact information on amateur radio operators who have ever worked for Tektronix, its subsidiaries or joint ventures. At present about 600 ex-employees worldwide have been identified. We are missing contact information for many. If you worked for Tektronix or any of its subsidiaries or joint ventures or know someone who did but are unaware of the Tektronix Hams - Past and Present List, please drop me an emailat w7wll@arrl.net.

The URL is for us is www.vintageTek.org.

Don W7WLL
Tektronix '58-'01

5 PURPOSES OF AMATEUR RADIO

The five "purposes" of amateur radio as spelled out in Part 97, are:

(1) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

(2) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

(3) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and technical phases of the art.

(4) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

(5) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF RADIO ART

Our program at the September 15th meeting related the work of Dave KB5WIA to open communication from rare grid squares. He has spent time and funds to equip his station to both give VHF and UHF operators an opportunity to work these sites, and to activate California's Lost Coast (CM79) for Satellite operators.

The third purpose of amateur radio is advancing skills. Dave has learned on each outing...and has implemented changes and improvements to his station and operation as a result. Whether our operation is primarily VHF/UHF or on the HF bands, his example speaks to our learning, too.

Recently, one of our members began experimenting with the creation of a 20 meter yagi...and succeeded in developing a working template for such a project. Which is more satisfying, creating a working antenna, or learning much more about yagi design? Both are improvements to the radio art...and are shared with others in the club.

SEASONAL WEATHER CHECKS

As we're in the midst of our "good weather" days of Fall before winter arrives in a hundred days or so, this is a good time to assess equipment, its condition and any maintenance needs for your stations. Let's will review some hints on effective equipment preparedness.

At your home station, are antennae in good condition? Are cable connections sound or do they need to be sealed again? Are guy wires secure? Do tree branches need removal before a wind storm brings them down on your best antenna? Do you have spare wire, feed-line and connectors so that you could use to throw up a quick replacement if something goes wrong? How about a back up power supply? Are your batteries or generator in need of maintenance before being pressed into service? Have you checked the seal around entry-points for your feed-lines? Periodic resealing saves energy and limits collateral damage caused by water incursion.

Do you have a family 72-hour disaster preparedness kit ready to go with enough non-perishable food, water, heat sources to get you through a long spell of the harsh conditions? Do you have more than ONE heat method if utilities are compromised?

Is your portable gear ready to go? How are you fixed for spare batteries? Do you have solar or other charging sources available? Make sure you have good spare batteries for your HT. If you have multiple radios, they EACH need spare batteries. Many universal chargers are available now, which can quick charge ALL your batteries even while you are mobile. You might consider one of these as a future addition to your equipment if you don't already have one. A higher gain HT antenna is also very handy.

Amateur dealers, home and auto supply stores, have sales this time of year. Now is a good time to check pricing on gear or accessories you may need to build up your home, car and radio equipment so you will be ready for winter. Christmas will soon be here and if you drop a few hints, maybe some of your equipment shortfalls might even wind up under your tree.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

HAM RADIO OUTLET

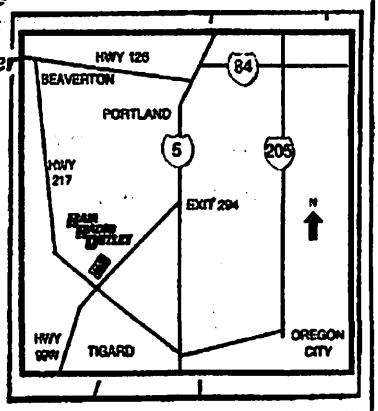
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PHOENIX, AZ SALEM, NH SAN DIEGO, CA NEWCASTLE, DE
SUNNYVALE, CA VAN NUYS, CA WOODBRIDGE, VA

5 MHz NEWSLETTER PUBLISHES

A Newsletter has been launched to support the growing number of 5 MHz operating permissions globally. It is being called the 5MHz Newsletter. Edited by Paul Gaskell G4MWO, one of the original RSGB 5 MHz team, it aims to be an accurate information source of news about 5 MHz and a platform for exchange of ideas, be they theoretical, operational, constructional or just general comments about the band.

Originating in the UK, the 5 MHz Newsletter invites world-wide interest, both as readers and contributors. When contributing items of news concerning new 5 MHz permissions or allocations, that the contributor can provide a means of official verification of such.

You can freely access the 5 MHz Newsletter from Google Documents at http://tinyurl.com/6fkhcmf It is hoped to produce the 5 MHz Newsletter on a quarterly basis.

Paul G4MWO
Editor 5 MHz Newsletter
http://tinyurl.com/6fkhcmf

DX-peditions, from Page 1

nations, as well as European micro-states, have very small populations, but have hotels, reliable power, and supplies, and are easy to gain operating permission.

Other jurisdictions restrict individual access to communications equipment. These are rare because very few amateurs are licensed in those countries and visitors find it difficult or impossible to gain operating permits or import amateur radio equipment. Some locations are rare due to their inaccessibility - examples include Peter I Island and Desecheo Island.

Once operating permission is assured, transportation must be arranged. This can be both expensive and dangerous. Some locations are coral atolls that are almost submerged at high tide, such as Scarborough Reef; others are sub-polar islands with inhospitable climates such as Peter I Island.

When a group arrives at the DX-pedition site, they must set up their station and get on the air. DX-peditions are usually group affairs since the desire is to make as many contacts as possible from the location. Round-the-clock operations on multiple HF bands simultaneously are typical. Holiday operations from locations where there are few resident operators are often more leisurely affairs. Nonetheless the operator will seek to make as many contacts as possible in the operating time available.

Joe Kelly N7BF

[Next Month: Resources for DX-pedition Planning]

WANTED

Wanted to keep to borrow for copying: 1992 *Sea-Pac* booklet.

This is needed for the OTVARC Archives.

Al Berg 503.816.7098

16th Annual Swap-Tober-Fest 2011

The Annual Amateur Radio Emergency Services Convention and Swap Meet takes place October 22, 2011 at Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreall. It is sponsored by Mid-Valley ARES.

This central location in western Oregon makes a great gathering place for eye-ball QSOs. Information on registration may be found at www.swaptoberfest.net.

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

8 OCTOBER 2011
Pacific Northwest VHF Society Conference
The Riverhouse
2850 NW Rippling River Court
Bend, OR 97701
www.pnwvhfs.org
Talk-In: 146.94 (PL 162.2) & 144.24 USB
Donald Krug K7HSJ
61245 Paulina Lane Bend, OR 97702
541-382-7561
ghcdk@bendnet.com

22 October 22 2011
16th Annual Swap-Tober-Fest 2011
Amateur Radio Emergency Services Convention and Swap Meet
520 S Pacific Highway West, Rickreall, OR
Mid-Valley ARES
PO Box 27
Monmouth OR 97361
www.swaptoberfest.net

1 - 3 JUNE 2012
SEA-PAC
NW Division ARRL Convention
Seaside Convention Center
Seaside Oregon
Online Registration Open NOW
www.seapac.org
C. Wayne Schuler AI9Q
16414 NE 21st Street
Vancouver, WA 98684
360-892-5580
ai9q@arrl.net

Your business advertising in *THE OSCILLATOR* is seen each month by more than 200 members who read *THE OSCILLATOR*. To include your "Business Card" ad ($48.00 annually) or "Display" - HRO size ad ($60.00 annually), contact **Maureen O'Rourke at 503.591.9641.**

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HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

1	Barbara Riley	K6UZW
1	Robert Young	KB7MFD
3	Bob Crispin	KM7Q
15	Richard Banton	KD7THV
16	Bud Carswell	KB7NUO
17	Bud Butterfield	KG7F
22	Edward Pratasiewicz	KE7GXL
22	Richard Welk	KB7EWX
23	Stephen Jackson	KD7ABE
25	Jerry E. Miller	NB7P
28	Carl Clawson	WS7L

Did we miss your birthday? Perhaps we don't have it in our list. Drop a note to: otvarc@gmail.com

OCTOBER LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday October 22
at 12:00 PM
AT
Swap-toberfest - Rickreall
In the Lunch Room

Talk In: 147.54 MHz Simplex

Questions?

Linda KC7YTD
kc7ytd@gmail.com
503.372.6286

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

2012 HOLIDAY DINNER
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
SUNSET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(Note Date Change)

CLUB FREQUENCIES

Simplex: 147.54 MHz
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz (Goat Mtn)
223.94 MHz (Goat Mtn)
440.25 MHz (Goat Mtn)

PORTLAND OR 972
27 SEP 2011 PM 5 L



FIRST CLASS MAIL

[redacted]

CLUB MEETING
OCTOBER 20TH